THE SWORD INTERVAL

BY BEN FLEUTER

Earth's resources.

O-oh! Cool.

Uhm so... when can we go home?
It's just... I don't think most us want to be here.

Grandmother Slough!
You have no right to do this!

Mom!
Stand back, Phin!

Hey...
Hey I know who that is...

Yeah he's one of the hunters that helped fight.
No no, that's ***the*** Verdant Hunter! David something-er -other!
Hunter! You have to stop this! You have to help us!

HELP US!

Yeah, we were there the night it happened. See my pa... he hid a cache of magical trinkets somewhere in the swamp.

When a seer docked her boat right outa town we knew we had a shot.

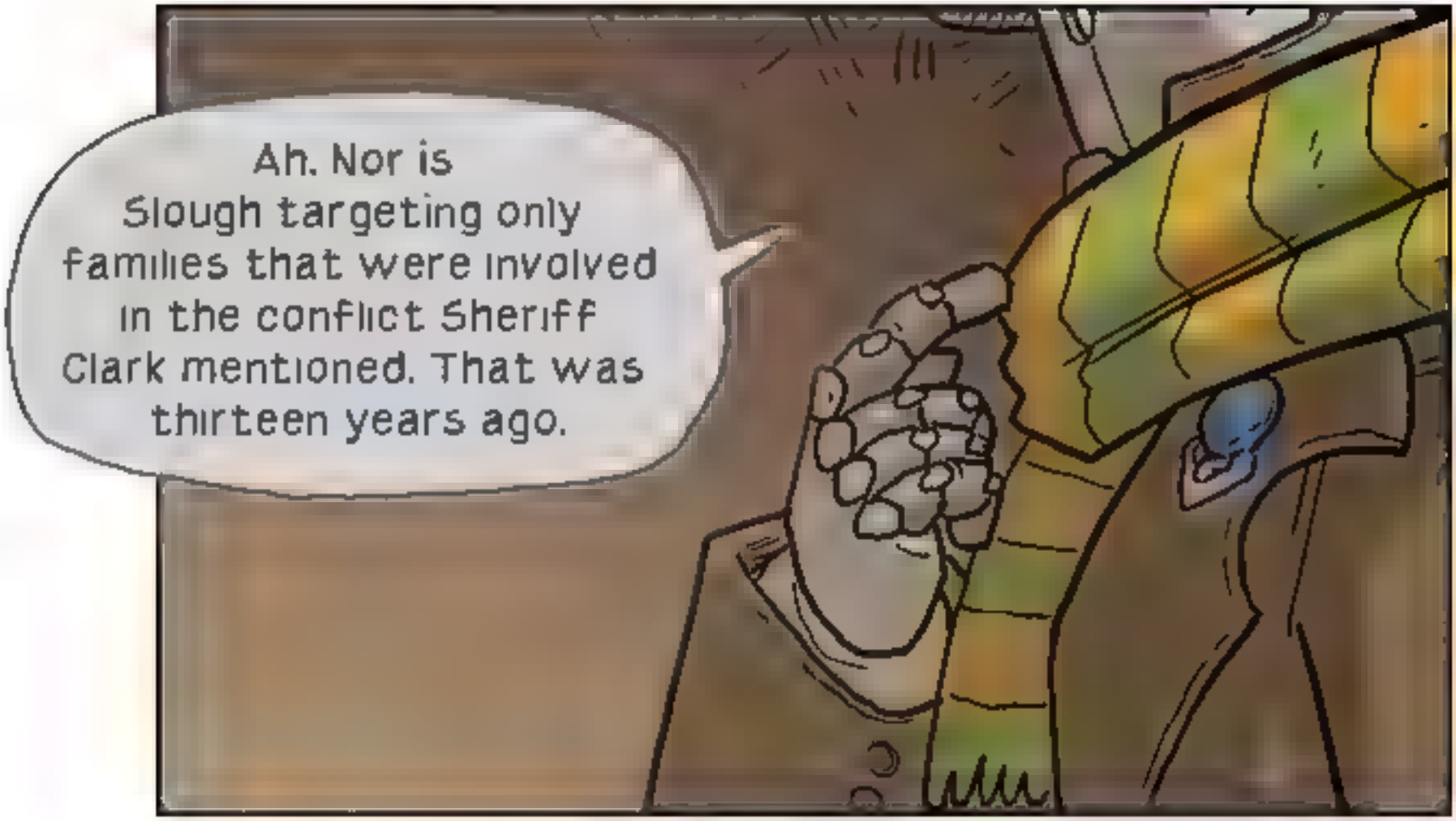
Yes ma'am! Thing is? It's deep in fae territory. We'd have to hire some hunters to go in and get it.
As we were leaving Rue's boy was taken.
Poor Phineus

Well we called Clark, and then Rue took her houseboat out and went after Granny Slough.

...Wait. You said she lived *out* of town? When did she move there?

Oh I'd say... four, five years ago?
Did she have her kid yet?
Sure. He was a toddler.
Ms. Barros?

Dude, that means Slough's not like... only going after kids from Sugar Fen.


Ah. Nor is Slough targeting only families that were involved in the conflict Sheriff Clark mentioned. That was thirteen years ago.

Well well! This'll help you get them kids back?
No idea!

But David always says that if you wanna slay a monster, it's important to know what that monster wants.
A dryad queen...

Part of a hive mind whittled down to one member.
AUTOPSY
NATURE SPIRIT
REPORT
LOUI
BEST

"It's so quiet now."
"It hurts."

That was the 100th episode!

To celebrate, I've gathered some guest art from some very talented artists!

Please check out their websites!

By JB Betz!

Check out JB's art blog at
jbillustration.tumblr.com

By Ali Leriger de la Plante!

Ali does the comic ***Ophiuchus,***
which you can read here on Webtoon!
[just do a search for it!]

By Claude TC!

Comics – ***gronkcomics.com***
Tumblr – ***claudetc.tumblr.com***
Gumroad – ***gumroad.com/claudetc***

By Aurora Ness!
[that's my wife!]

Aurora does the comic ***Drag Race,***
which just launched here on Webtoon!
[just do a search for it!]

Both of these are by IV!

Check out IV's comic at ***ivstudios.net/inhumation***

By Sir Edmund!

Tumblr – ***sredmund.tumblr.com***

By Dan!

Tumblr – ***dansome0203.tumblr.com***

By Cat Caro!

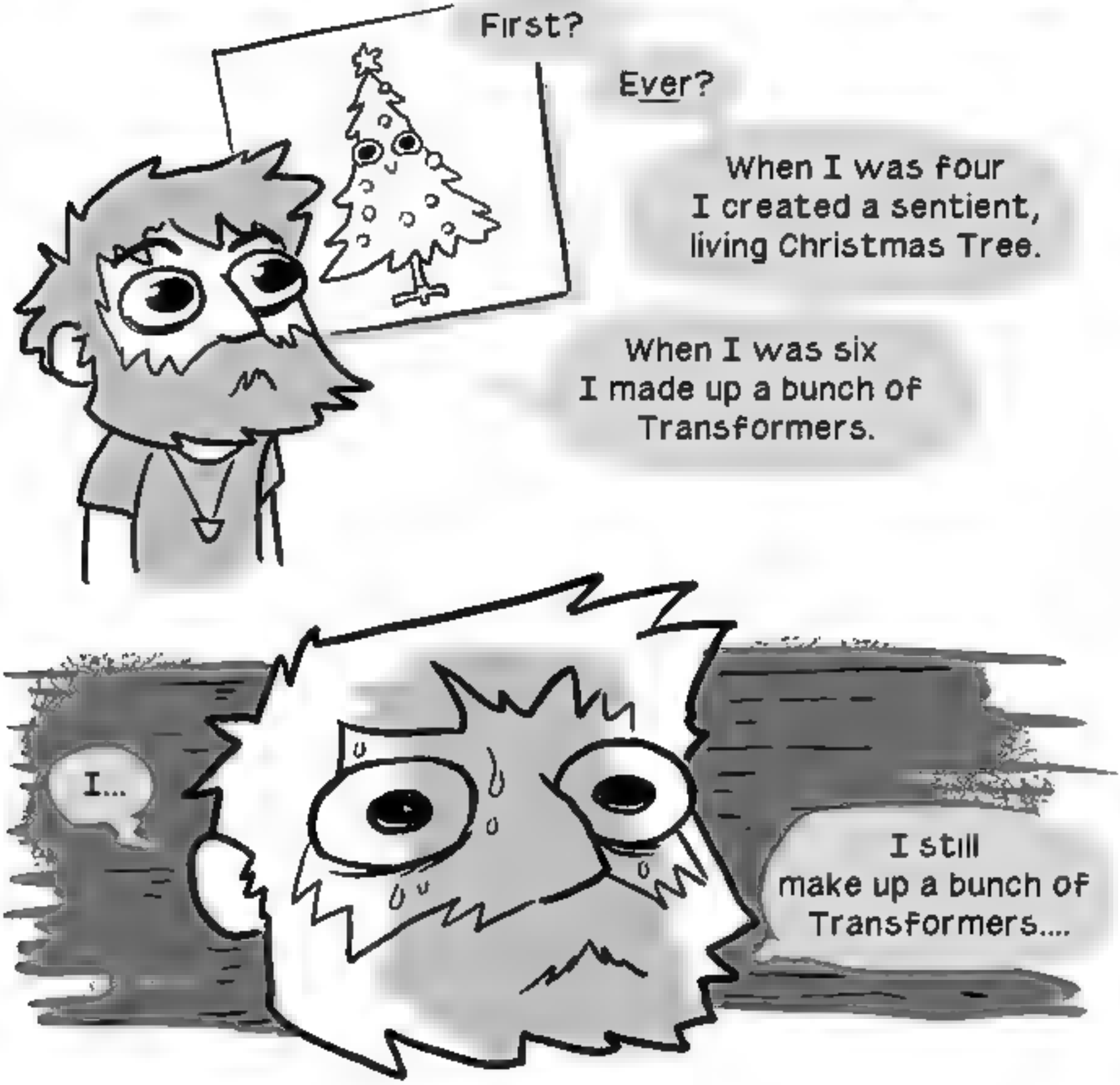
Webcomic – ***21utopias.tumblr.com***
Art Tumblr – ***thestudyofmonsters.tumblr.com***

By Fish Mage!

Twitter – *twitter.com/IamFishMage*

Now, time for some Q&A!
I got LOTS of good questions but
could only answer so many.

What was the first character you ever created as an artist?



What's Fall's favorite food?

I mean, like, not recently. We've been living out of a car.

I've literally only ever seen you consume soda and coffee.

Sure, on-panel maybe! Besides, I had Chinese take-out in episode 9.

You dropped it. You didn't eat it.

ANYWAY!

What you'll need!

- 1/2 pound mushrooms! (crimini or white)
- 1/2 pound broccoli
- 2 carrots
- 2 stalks of celery
- 2 scallions
- 3 tablespoons of flour
- 2 tablespoons of butter
- olive oil (or your preferred cooking oil)
- soy sauce
- salt and pepper
- a pinch thyme is optional

-Preheat that oven to 450
-Cut the broccoli into bite-sized pieces
-Dice the carrots and celery
-Chop up the mushrooms
-Slice up the scallions. Separate the green tops from the white bottoms

Work out all your inner demons by cutting and burning things!
chop chop
chop chop
chop
chop
chop

COOKING IS GREAT!
chop
chop chop
chop
chop
chop chop
chop
chop

Okay now line an oven tray with foil and a thin layer of oil. Arrange the broccoli in a layer, salt and pepper it however much you want. Put it in the oven for about 13 minutes.

Heat up some oil in a big pot or pan on medium-high. Add the mushrooms, carrots, celery, and white part of the scallions. Thyme, salt, and pepper are optional here. Stir for about 12 minutes.

By the time you are done stirring, your broccoli should be done roasting. Take it out of the oven and set it aside, but leave the oven on.

Add the butter to the pan of veggies and stir until it's melted, then add one and a half cups of water, and a tablespoon of soy sauce. Mix in the flower and stir for about 3 minutes – until it's thickened.

Now turn off the stove, mix in the broccoli, and line a baking dish with oil. Put it all in the oven for another 10 minutes.

Top it with the green parts of the scallions and it's done!

What are some of the coolest and most creative ways people have used [silver, garlic, & other monster weaknesses] to get an advantage over their more powerful opponents?

Don't know if this is "coolest". Interesting, perhaps?

Most grocery and convenience stores sell pre-packaged supernatural protection kits. Comes with garlic powder, silver, rock salt, a tiny iron horseshoe, and stickers depicting common warding symbols.

I would not recommend it to anyone going out on a hunt, but it's enough for the layman's peace of mind.

What are everyone's favorite colors?

Hierophant: what's your favorite tea?

I grow it myself.

David: What's the toughest hunt you've been on [and what made it so tough]?

Fungal Clowns.

Do you do much research in fantasy creatures when writing?Will you write about "lesser known' creatures, like Red Caps or Dullahans?

I try and at least find the origins of creatures that I'm interested in using, but in the end I use whatever parts of the lore that I feel will be best for the story, and extrapolate the rest.

And... it's funny you mention Red Caps...

What exactly does a Golem classify as? Is it a conscious automaton or a living statue?

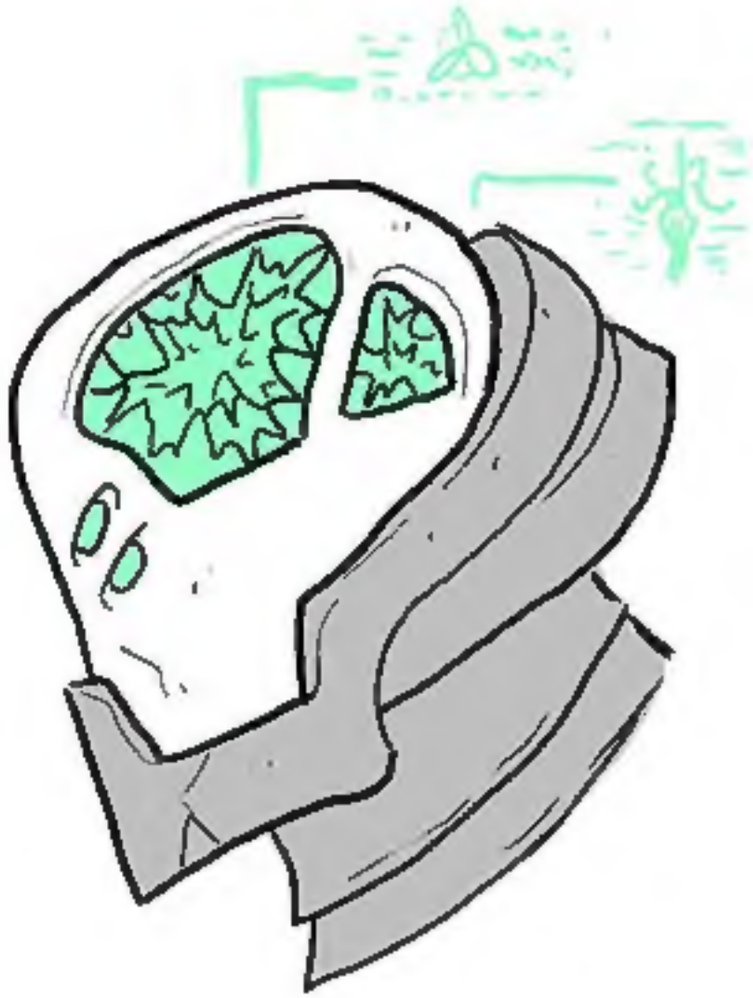
Is the golem dude sentient or has a magical equivalent of an A.I. ?

What are the mechanics behind Reggie?

Ah. For the final Q&A, allow me to try and answer many of these [who knows if there will be time in the comic to fully explore the topic]

Golems are artificial bodies – typically of rock, clay, or metal – given life and sentience when infused with a nature spirit. Most of our bodies are segmented and jointed, with little to no internal mechanisms. Mobility comes from a power source (in my case, that would be the spells I consume) and from the animating spirit, rather than motors or pistons.

The bound spirits need to be of the mindless, directionless variety or else the golem may go – for lack of a better term – berserk. A golem's instinct and intelligence are dictated primarily from the design of the body and from spells used during the creation process.



Golem prosthetics – such as Sheriff Clark's arm – are weaker spirits bound to a false limb. They are in essence a separate entity than their host, and interpret the host's desires through a low-level telepathic bond.

Golem limbs can be difficult for their host to adjust to. Arms may try and pick up trinkets they find interesting, and legs may carry their owner somewhere the spirit is curious about.

Wait wait wait.
Wait.
You're a rock suit with a nature spirit inside?
Well... infused with the spirit of-
You're a fairy piloting a mecha?
Huh.